

City News

The Newsletter of the
City of Veneta

88184 Eighth Street
PO Box 458
Veneta, OR 97487
(541) 935-2191

<http://www.ci.veneta.or.us/>

City recommends *fall ditch maintenance*

By Ephraim Payne

While warm weather grants Veneta residents a reprieve from a particularly wet fall, City officials want to remind residents that now is the time to clean up drainage ditches in preparation for another rain-soaked winter.

According to the City of Veneta's Municipal Code, city residents must keep drainage ditches and waterways on their land free of any flow-blocking debris or plant growth. Maintenance should ensure that water

flows through ditches, says Public Works Superintendent Kyle Schauer, so residents should never plug ditches and drainages or allow brush to inhibit flows. Given Veneta's flat topography, clogged ditches can easily lead to flooding upstream.

"The flow (of water) should not be impeded in any way," says Schauer, adding that it is common for uninformed city residents to put leaves or grass clippings in the low spots of drainage ditches.

Now is the best time

to work on drainage cleaning, before heavy winter rains set in.

"It's still dry enough to get out there and take care of things," says Schauer.

In order to follow the law without running afoul of habitat conservation efforts, people should know the difference between human-constructed drainage features and protected wetland areas. Residents unsure of the difference can call Community Services Director Brian Issa for more information at 541-935-2191.

Leaf pick-up starts this month

The City of Veneta will begin picking up bagged leaves left at curbside starting October 5, 2010. Leaves will be picked up on Tuesday and Thursday of each week through the end of January 2011. Bags are to contain leaves only, no garbage or other yard debris. Bags must be tied shut.

As an alternative, you may place leaves in your Yard Debris Roll Cart provided by County Transfer & Recycling or use them for mulch or compost on gardens and flowerbeds.

The City asks citizens to help reduce flooding by not raking leaves into gutters or storm drains. Depositing leaves or other debris in a drainage way is a violation of Veneta Municipal Code Chapter 15.15.010.

Veneta upgrades Territorial sewer lines

By Ephraim Payne

The City of Veneta is upgrading a portion of its sewer infrastructure in accordance with its Wastewater Master Plan. The project entails the laying of larger sewer mainlines along Territorial Highway between Cottage Court and Hunter Avenue, including a span of pipe at the crossing of Hunter and Territorial.

The upgrade will prevent possible bottlenecks along the route that could allow wastewater flows to back up and potentially cause overflows.

The project uses "pipe bursting technology" to shatter the existing concrete sewer pipe under the ground, after which workers will pull in new pipe made of high density polyethylene. The technique will save the City time and money.

"The contract cost is just under \$300,000," said Public Works Superintendent Kyle Schauer, adding that work on the project should end sometime in December.

By using pipe bursting, the City also hopes to avoid major traffic problems on Territorial. The

work should also have little impact on those with businesses and homes along the route because wastewater will be pumped around the construction and back into the main system using temporary, above ground lines.

"For the most part, people won't be inconvenienced for more than a couple of hours (while their connections to the new mainline is established)," Schauer said, adding that the construction company will notify residents of any temporary sewer service stoppage beforehand.

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